

## I. AMENDMENTS

### In the claims

*DTB 3*  
8. (Amended) The method according to claim 7 wherein the animal is immunocompromised due to infection [infected] with an immunodeficiency virus.

*6/6  
D*  
31. (Twice amended) A method of improving engraftment efficiency for transplantation of a population of non-autologous hematopoietic stem cells in a host animal having an endogenous hematopoietic stem cell population, comprising the steps of ablating the endogenous hematopoietic stem cell population of the host animal and transplanting the non-autologous hematopoietic stem cells into the [patient] host animal in conjunction with decreasing endogenous macrophages in the host animal.

## II. REMARKS

### Status of the claims

Claims 1-31 have been examined and are rejected. These rejections are addressed in the appropriate sections below.

By virtue of this amendment, claims 8 and 31 are amended. Claims 8 and 31 are amended to define the invention more specifically and to correct errors noted by the Applicants. The amendment to claim 8 is supported by the specification (p. 7, lines 30-31; and p. 8, lines 13-15). The amendment to claim 31 is supported by the specification (p. 8, line 28 to p. 9, line 5). No new matter has been introduced by these amendments.

Currently, claims 1-31 are pending. For the Examiner's convenience, the pending claims are provided in an appendix attached herewith. Reexamination and reconsideration of the claims, as amended, are respectfully requested.

### Summary of the invention

The claimed invention is to a method of preventing depletion of non-autologous hematopoietic cells.